

Rooney Ranch, Blacksmith Shop
Rooney Road and West Alameda Parkway
Morrison Vicinity
Jefferson County
Colorado

HABS No. CO-65-E

HABS
COLO,
30-MORR.V,
1-E-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Rocky Mountain Regional Office
Department of the Interior
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, CO 80225

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1-E-

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

ROONEY RANCH, BLACKSMITH SHOP

HABS No. CO-65-E

Location:

Junction of Rooney Road and West Alameda Parkway,
Morrison vicinity, Jefferson County, Colorado

UTM Coordinates, Morrison, Colorado Quad:

- A. 13/483860 4393200
- B. 13/483840 4392250
- C. 13/483040 4392250
- D. 13/483040 4393200

Date of Construction:

1940.

Present Owner:

Alexander Rooney
Otis Alex Rooney
Eileen Louis Rooney
George R. and Kathryn Rooney
Lynda P. Simmons
James P. Simmons
James Addison and Virginia Dawn Vesey
Security Realty
Jefferson County Open Space Department

Present Use:

Residence.

Significance:

Rooney Ranch, one of the oldest ranches in Jefferson County, Colorado, is significant for its local historical associations and for the high quality of masonry construction exhibited in its principal structures.

The significance of the ranch to the historical and architectural development of Jefferson County was recognized in 1975 when the site was listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Rooney Ranch was designated a Jefferson County Landmark the following year.

Historian:

Kenneth M. Gambrill
Kathryn M Kuranda
Colorado Department of Highways
August, 1983

The Blacksmith Shop is a one-and-one-half story vernacular style building on the site of the original Blacksmith Shop in 1940. The building takes its name from this earlier structure. The building is constructed in uncoursed sandstone and terminated in a gable roof. Recessed, shed roofed wings extend from the southeast and northwest elevations of the principal block. The roof of the principal block includes a centrally located roof ventilator. This ventilator marks the location of the forge chimney which predates the building. A straight stack gable end chimney, constructed in uncoursed sandstone, is found on the northeast elevation. This chimney is flush with the exterior wall of the dwelling.

Access for the building is gained through a one light, wood frame door located on the northeast elevation on the southeast wing. Southwest elevation fenestration is symmetrical while that of the remaining elevations is irregular. Window design varies on each elevation.

The Blacksmith Shop was originally constructed as a house for ranch hands. Richard Rooney, Albert Rooney's son, currently occupies the dwelling.